

APPENDICES

Synopsis of July's People

This story begins when all the cities all over South Africa are in a battle condition triggered by the Soweto Riot. One of the cities which are in a battle condition, is Johannesburg, where July's master lives. July has worked for a white family named the Smales for fifteen years. There are lots of bombing here, burning there, and censorship of newspapers, radio and television. When the riot terror almost reaches Johannesburg, July rescues his master to his village, which is quite far away from the town. They are running away by using Bam Smales's yellow vehicle.

When the Smales arrive at July's village, they find out that July's village is actually a habitation of mud houses and inhabited by the members of July's family. The Smales are greeted in a hostile way. The condition in July's village is so bad that there is no clean water for taking a bath or for drinking; they are always bitten by insects and fleas; there are no proper beds to sleep, no blankets, no proper clothes, no fresh foods and no toilet papers. Maureen and Bam are grateful that their family are still alive and saved by their servant, July.

Day by day they try to socialize with the people in the village but July's family are so frightened of the Smales' coming to the village. Bam tries to go

hunting with some men in the village. Maureen also goes to the field to plant some weeds together with the women in the village, but they only laugh at Maureen. Both July's mother and July's wife, Martha cannot easily accept the Smales because they think that white people only bring difficulties and always do a harmful thing towards the blacks. They are both upset because he has brought them to their village.

One day, the chief of the village asks July to bring the Smales to him. When the Smales are first introduced to the chief, July tells the chief that Bam is his master when he is in town. On their meeting, they come to a conclusion that Bam is honored to teach them how to use a gun in order to prevent the people from Soweto.

In the course of the story, Maureen's despair grows greater and greater because of the uncomfortable treatment from July, who is so protective and she cannot stand the unusual treatment from July's family any longer. At the end of the story, Maureen runs away from the village after hearing the sound of a helicopter. While running away, she is hallucinating that in front of her there is a place inhabited by white people.

Biography of Nadine Gordimer

Nadine Gordimer was born in 1923 in Springs, a small gold-mining town thirty miles from Johannesburg. Her parents were Jewish émigrés, her mother was from England and her father was from Latvia. Because of her illness, she was educated privately at her home. She really loved reading when she was a child and when she became a young woman she created many works which were related to the situation of South Africa at that time. She is called an anti-apartheid white writer at that time.

Over half a century, Gordimer has published twelve volumes of short stories, beginning with Face to Face (1949) and including two books of selected stories, Selected Stories (1975) and Why Haven't You Written: Selected Stories 1950-72 (1992); twelve novels, among others are The Lying Days (1953), A World of Strangers (1958), The Conservationist, Burger's Daughter (1979), July's People (1981), My Son's Story (1990) and The House Gun (1998); and collections of essays on literature and politics, such as The Black Interpreters (1973) and How South African Censorship Works (1980). She has also collaborated with the photographer David Goldblatt for On the Mines (1973) and Lifetimes: Under Apartheid (1986). In 1991, she won the Nobel Prize for literature because many of her works deal with and criticized the situation of the Apartheid system in South Africa.

Today, Nadine Gordimer lives and writes in a half-formed society. Gordimer's territory has always been the border between private emotions and external forces.